



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

21 August 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 17, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Sarasota to Northern Collier County. Patchy high impacts are possible from Sarasota to Northern Charlotte Counties today through Wednesday, with patchy low impacts possible on Thursday. Patchy moderate impacts possible in Southern Charlotte today through Wednesday, with patchy low impacts on Thursday. Patchy very low impacts are possible from Lee to Northern Collier today through Wednesday, with no impacts expected on Thursday.

Analysis

The bloom persists from Sarasota County to northern Collier County; however, recent imagery suggests that it has continued to move north. Imagery from 8/20 illustrates a high chlorophyll band extending from central Manatee County through central Lee County, with a northern extent of 27° 29' 37" N, 82° 48' 24" W and a southern extent of approximately 26° 38' 14" N, 82° 21' 4" W. Highest concentrations (>30 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are centered around 27° 19' 30" N, 82° 40' 57" W. Further sampling is recommended.

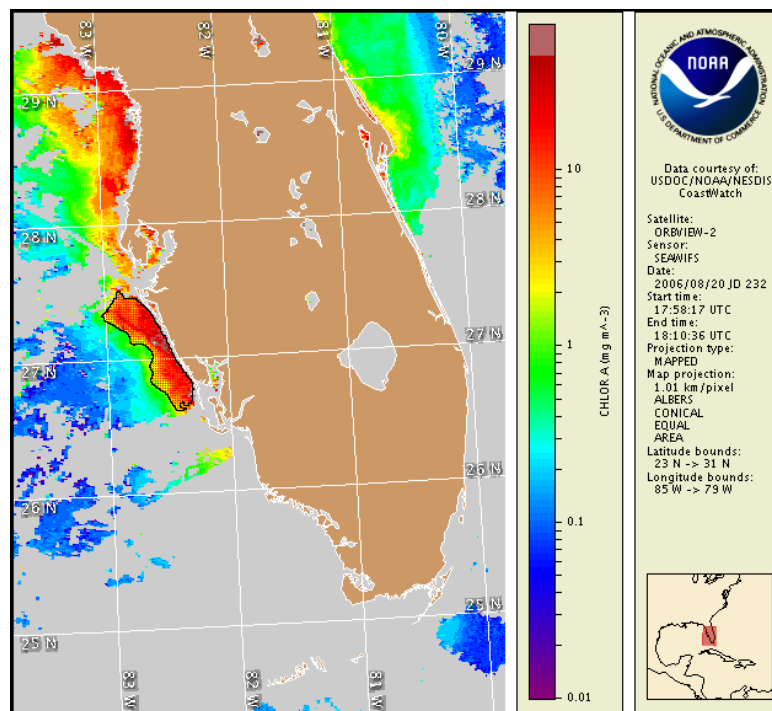
K. brevis concentrations have continued to increase in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties. High concentrations of *K. brevis* have been detected in patches from Venice Beach (FWRI; 8/14) to Englewood Beach (FWRI; 8/17), and 1.5 miles west of Stumps Pass (FWRI; 8/15). Medium concentrations of *K. brevis* have also been found in patches from Longboat Key (FWRI; 8/14) to Gasparilla Pass (FWRI; 8/15). *K. Brevis* concentrations remain at present to low levels in Lee and Collier County.

Onshore winds today through Wednesday will increase coastal impacts. Southerly winds throughout the week may continue to cause slight northward transport of the bloom. Bloom likely to reach southern Manatee County by the end of the week.

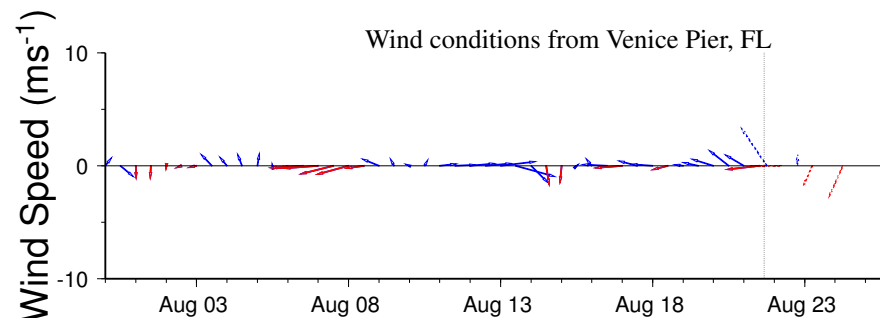
Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

-Keller, Stolz

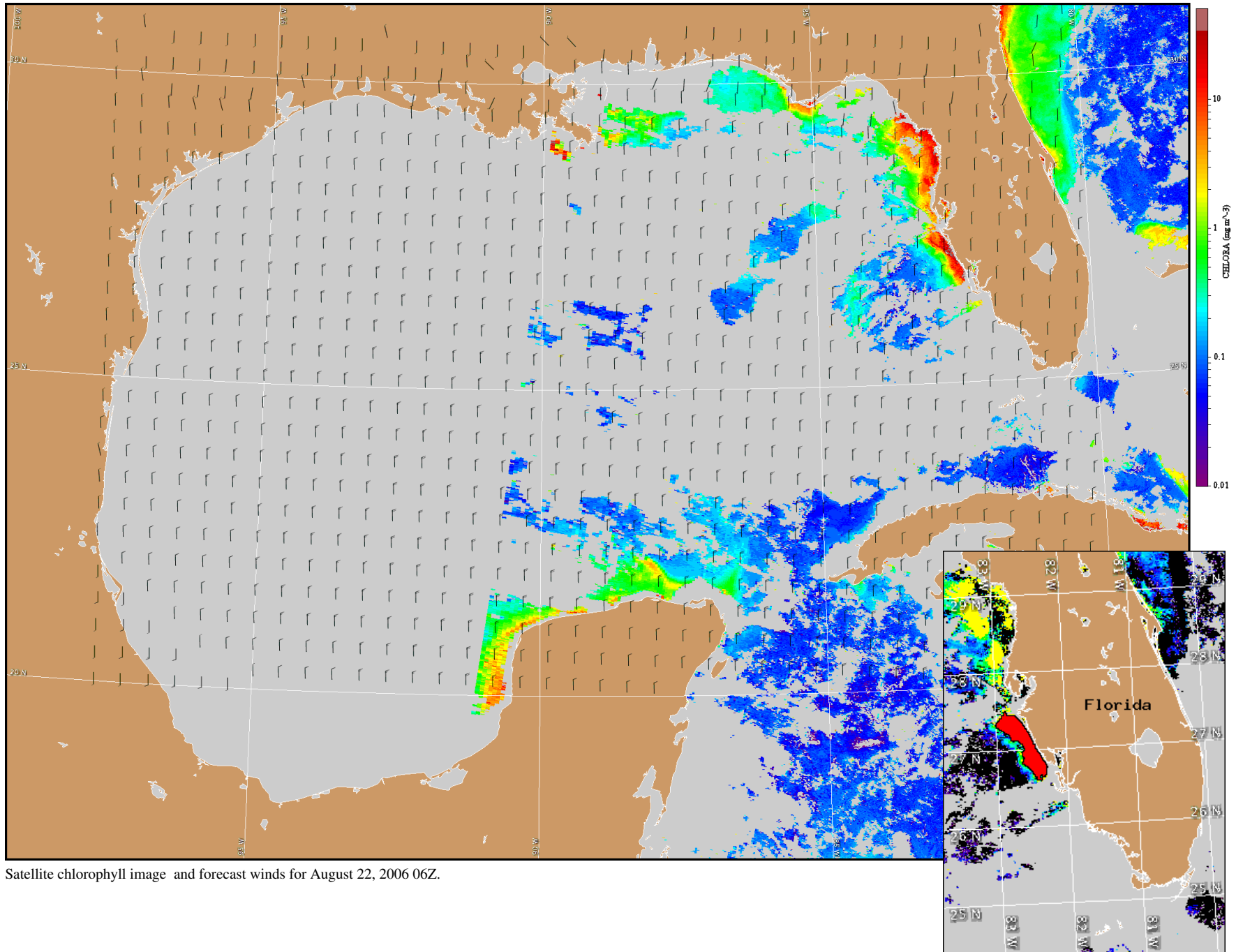


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Southeasterly winds today and this evening, with onshore winds in the afternoon (5-10 knots, 3-5 m/s). Southerly winds on Tuesday and Wednesday with onshore winds in the afternoon (5-10 knots, 3-5 m/s). Southeasterly winds on Thursday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 22, 2006 06Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

